



Repeater: NØDX 145.190 MHz (Input 144.590 / Tone 192.8 Hz)



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## The Eastern Iowa DX Bulletin

Number 221, May 10, 2024

**Craig Fastenow, KØCF, Editor**

This bulletin is a compilation of **currently active** DX operations (or those that will become active within the current week) from recent issues of the three DX bulletins listed below and other sources. Credit for the source is given at the end of each article.

Articles are ordered by the entity's callsign prefix from the *ARRL DXCC Entities List*. Callsigns used are in **bold** with dates of operation highlighted in **red**. Clickable links are provided for QSL and other information wherever possible. Note that articles may be edited for grammar, language, style and accuracy and will remain in *The Bulletin* while active; articles that are announcements of ongoing operations, or that have no specified end date, will be removed after three weeks.

Also included is a [Propagation](#) section, updated daily; and a [Contest Calendar](#) of upcoming popular contests.

DX News items are courtesy of:

The ARRL DX Bulletin

The bulletin is available at <http://www.arrl.org>

425 DX News, A.R.I. DX Bulletin (425DXN)

Edited by Mauro Pregliasco, I1JQJ & Valeria Pregliasco, IK1ADH

425 DX News Home Page: <https://www.425dxn.org/>

425 DX News Google Group: <https://groups.google.com/g/425eng>

DX Newsletter (DXNL)

Edited by Andreas Salder, DK5ON

A weekly service of DARC Committee "DX", <http://www.darcdxhf.de>

Propagation data is from:

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's

[Space Weather Prediction Center](#)

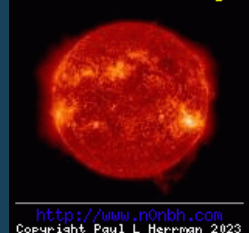
Dr. Tony Phillips' [SpaceWeather.com](http://SpaceWeather.com), used by permission

Contest data courtesy of the [WA7BNM Contest Calendar](#)



### Solar-Terrestrial Data

11 May 2024 1708 GMT  
 SFI: 223 SN: 169  
 A-Index: 118  
 K-Index: 8  
 X-Ray: M2.7  
 304A: 171.9 @ SEM  
 Ptn Flx: 15000  
 Elc Flx: 277000  
 Aurora: 10/n=1.99  
 Mag (Bz): -1.6  
 Solar Wind: 766.4  
 Geomag Field SEV STRM  
 Sig Noise Lvl S20+  
 Current Solar Image



<http://www.nonbh.com>  
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## DX News

**3D2, CONWAY REEF.** Members of the Rebel DX Group are QRV as **3D2CCC**. Activity is on 160 to 10 meters using CW, SSB, and FT8. QSL via [ClubLog's QQRS](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 18 May 2, 2024] (0503-0524)

**4X, ISRAEL.** Special event station **4X6M** will be active on **May 16th-17th** from the Yad Vashem, Israel's official memorial to the victims of the Holocaust. QSL via [4X6ZM](#).

-[425DXN # 1723 May 11, 2024] (0510-0517)

**5Z, KENYA.** Reto, HB9BFL is QRV as **5Z4GO** from Mombasa. Activity is on the HF bands. QSL via LoTW.

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 18 May 2, 2024] (0503-0524)

**7Q, MALAWI.** Don, K6ZO, and KC4D operate as **7Q6M** and **7Q7WW** respectively **until May 15th**.  
-[DXNL # 2405 May 8, 2024] (0510-0517)

**8P, BARBADOS.** Chris, WA7RAR, will be active as **8P9CB** from **May 14th to 26th** on 20-10m (CW, SSB). QSL via [WA7RAR](#).  
-[DXNL # 2405 May 8, 2024] (0510-0531)

**9H, MALTA.** Special callsign **9H6HE** is being used by the Malta Amateur Radio League (9H1MRL) to celebrate the swearing in of Dr. Myriam Spiteri Debono as Malta's 11th President. Look for activity from **April 15th to May 31st**, on 40, 20, 15 and 10 meters SSB, CW and digital modes. Paper QSL cards will not be available; QSL via LoTW.  
-[425DXN # 1720 April 20, 2024] (0419-0531)

**9X, RWANDA.** Harald, DF2WO is QRV as **9X2AW** from Kigali **until May 17th**. Activity is on 160 to 10 meters using CW, SSB, FT8, and FT4. QSL via [MØOXO's OQRS](#).  
-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 18 May 2, 2024] (0503-0517)

**A2, BOTSWANA.** Remo, HB9SHD will be QRV as **A25SHD** from **April 30th to May 13th**. Activity will be holiday style on the HF bands. QSL via LoTW.  
-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 17 April 25, 2024] (0426-0517)

**A9, BAHRAIN.** Special event station **A91WTIS** will be active on **May 11th-17th** to celebrate World Telecommunication and Information Society Day (May 17). WTISD marks the founding of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), and its purpose is to help raise awareness about the global innovation gap, promote digital inclusion, and spur action to close the digital divide. QSL via [EC6DX](#).  
-[425DXN # 1722 May 4, 2024] (0510-0517)

**C9, MOZAMBIQUE.** Bill, **C91CCY** has been active using SSB on 80 meters around 0400z, and 40 meters around 0430z. QSL via [K3IRV](#).  
-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 19 May 9, 2024] (0510-0531)

**CN, MOROCCO.** In celebration of the 21st birthday of Prince Moulay Hassan, the heir apparent to the Moroccan throne, special callsign **CN21HM** will be active on **May 8th-12th**. QSL direct to [CN8RAH](#).  
-[425DXN # 1722 May 4, 2024] (0503-0517)

**CP, BOLIVIA.** Members of the Yaguarete DX Group (Joe, LU1FM, Fer, LU6FOV, Rene, LU7HN, Pablo, LU7MT, Alex, LU8YD, Dany, LU9FHF, and Osvaldo, LU5DF) will be active as **CP7DX** from Tarija, Bolivia on **May 11th-19th**. They will operate SSB, CW, FT8 (F/H) on 160-6 meters, as well as SSB and FM via LEO satellites. See <https://jvp-antenas.com.ar/cp7dx/> for more information. QSL via [ClubLog's OQRS](#), or direct to [LU1FM](#).  
-[425DXN # 1722 May 4, 2024] (0510-0524)

**CT, PORTUGAL.** Members of the Portuguese DX Group are QRV with special call sign **CS2GPDX** **during May** to celebrate the group's 30th anniversary. Awards are available, see: <http://gpdx.netpower.pt/>. QSL via bureau.  
-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 18 May 2, 2024] (0503-0531)

**CT3, MADEIRA IS.** Members of the Portuguese DX Group are QRV with special call sign **CR3GPDX** **during May** to celebrate the group's 30th anniversary. Awards are available, see: <http://gpdx.netpower.pt/>. QSL via bureau.  
-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 18 May 2, 2024] (0503-0531)

**CU, AZORES.** Members of the Portuguese DX Group are QRV with special call sign **CR2GPDX** **during May** to celebrate the group's 30th anniversary. Awards are available, see: <http://gpdx.netpower.pt/>. QSL via bureau.  
-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 18 May 2, 2024] (0503-0531)

**DXCC TOP TWENTY.** Here are the top 20 entities on ClubLog's "DXCC Most Wanted" list as of May 10, 2024:

1. P5 DPRK (North Korea) 11. 3Y/B Bouvet Island

2. BS7H	Scarborough Reef	12. ZS8	Prince Edward & Marion Islands
3. CE0X	San Felix Islands	13. KH4	Midway Island
4. BV9P	Pratas Island	14. VK0M	Macquarie Island
5. KH7K	Kure Island	15. PY0S	Saint Peter And Paul Rocks
6. KH3	Johnston Island	16. KP5	Desecheo Island
7. FT/G	Glorioso Island	17. VP0S	South Sandwich Islands
8. 3Y/P	Peter 1 Island	18. KH5	Palmyra & Jarvis Islands
9. FT5/X	Kerguelen Island	19. ZL9	New Zealand Subantarctic Islands
10. YV0	Aves Island	20. FK/C	Chesterfield Islands

For the complete list, see <https://clublog.org/mostwanted.php>

-[KØCF May 10, 2024] (0510-0524)

**EA, SPAIN.** Once again, the Federacion Digital EA will operate special callsigns **AO1EU, AO2EU, AO3EU, AO4EU, AO5EU, AO6EU, AO7EU, AO8EU** and **AO9EU** on **May 3rd-12th** to celebrate Europe Day, the anniversary of the Schuman Declaration (May 9, 1950) that paved the way to the European Union. See <https://www.fediea.org/eudota/> for more information. QSL direct to [EA3RKF](https://www.fediea.org/eudota/).  
-[425DXN # 1721 April 27, 2024] (0503-0517)

**EA, SPAIN.** Celebrating the 75th anniversary of the Union de Radioaficionados Espanoles (URE), Spanish amateurs are allowed to replace their Normal prefix from **May 1st to May 31st** as follows: EA stations can use AO#75, EB stations can use AN#75, and EC stations can use AM#75, where "#" is the digit of their call area. For example, EA1FMJ will use AO175FMJ, EC5BUH will use AM575BUH, EB7KA will use AN775KA.  
-[425DXN # 1721 April 27, 2024] (0426-0517)

**EI, IRELAND.** Special event station **EI8ØMB** remains active **until the end of May** from the National Maritime Museum, commemorating the rescue of 169 German sailors by the MV Kerlogue after a battle in the Bay of Biscay. QSL via [EI6AL](https://www.clublog.org/qlogs/EI6AL/), [ClubLog's QQRS](https://www.clublog.org/qlogs/EI8ØMB/).  
-[DXNL # 2404 May 1, 2024] (0503-0531)

**F, FRANCE.** Special event station **TM85JO** operates around the Olympic Torch stages from **May 8th to 12th, June 8th to 9th, June 21st to 23rd, July 12th to 14th**, and on **July 26th**. QSL via bureau.  
-[DXNL # 2405 May 8, 2024] (0510-0726)

**F, FRANCE.** Special callsign **TM13JO** will be active on **May 8th-15th** as the Paris 2024 Olympic Torch Relay passes through the French Department of the Bouche du Rhone. QSL via [F5SDD](https://www.f5sdd.com/).

Also active during the same time frame are expected to be **TM83JO** from the Department of Var (May 8th-12th) and **TM04JO** from the Department of Alpes-de-Haute-Provence. QSLs via operators' instructions.

They will be followed by a large number of other special callsigns, which in the following weeks will cover the progress of the Olympic Torch as it crosses other Departments and Territories until its arrival in Paris on July 26th. The Association des Radioamateurs Vauclusiens (F5KPO) organizes the "Olympic Torch Relay Challenge" for contacts made with those stations - see <https://www.grz.com/db/TM00JO> for the details, and <https://www.oly24.fr/awardform.html> for the certificates.

-[425DXN # 1721 April 27, 2024] (0503-0517)

**FK, NEW CALEDONIA.** Alain **FK/FO4AE** and his wife Patricia stay on New Caledonia (OC-032) **until May 15th**. Out on sea their callsign is FO4AE/MM. For more information see <http://unavog.blogspot.com>. QSL via LoTW.

-[DXNL # 2405 May 8, 2024] (0510-0517)

**FY, FRENCH GUIANA.** Operators at club station FY5KE are QRV as **TO6ØCSG** each weekend in April, May, and June to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the Guiana Space Centre. See detailed information at [TO6ØCSG](https://www.to6ocsg.com/). QSL direct to [FY5KE](https://www.fy5ke.com/).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 14 April 4, 2024] (0405-0628)

**G, ENGLAND.** Special event station **GB6WW** will be active from **May 1st to 28th**, commemorating the end of World War II. An award is also available for contacts with GB6WW on 3 bands. QSL via [MMØDFV](https://www.mm0dfv.com/).

-[DXNL # 2404 May 1, 2024] (0503-0531)

**G, ENGLAND.** Joining Guglielmo Marconi's 150th anniversary celebrations, the Cornish Radio Amateur Club (GX4CRC) will be active as **GB15ØGM** from **April 27th until July 27th**. This activity participates in the "Marconi 150 Award", organized by the Associazione Radioamatori Italiani (ARI) and the Coordinamento Stazioni Marconiane Italiane (CSMI) under the patronage of the Guglielmo Marconi Foundation. See IR2GMCL below. QSL via eQSL.

-[425DXN # 1720 April 20, 2024] (0426-0726)

**GI, NORTHERN IRELAND.** Once again the North West Group ARC (MNØNWG) is running special event station **GBØAEL** from **May 5th to 31st** to commemorate the anniversary of Amelia Earhart's transatlantic flight. On May 20-21, 1932, Earhart became the first woman to fly nonstop and alone across the Atlantic, leaving Harbor Grace on Newfoundland (Canada), and landing 15 hours later near Londonderry (Northern Ireland). QSL via [MIØHOZ](#).

-[425DXN # 1722 May 4, 2024] (0503-0531)

**HZ, SAUDI ARABIA.** Members of the Saudi Radio Amateurs Society will be QRV with special event station **HZ1WTIS** from **May 10th to 17th** in celebration of World Telecommunication and Information Society Day. QSL via bureau.

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 19 May 9, 2024] (0510-0517)

**I, ITALY.** The United Nations Global Service Centre ARC (4U1GSC) in Brindisi is active as **4U29MAY** until **May 31st**. The special callsign promotes the International Day of UN Peacekeepers (May 29th). DXCC wise, it counts for Italy. QSL via [9A2AA](#).

-[425DXN # 1722 May 4, 2024] (0503-0531)

**I, ITALY.** Commemorating the 150th anniversary of the birth of Guglielmo Marconi, members of ARI's Board of Directors will be active as **IR2GMCL** from **April 28th to July 27th** during the "Marconi 150 Award". See <https://www.qrz.com/db/IR2GMCL> for the rules. Paper QSL cards will not be provided; electronic QSLs may be downloaded from the HamAward platform.

-[425DXN # 1720 April 20, 2024] (0426-0726)

**I, ITALY.** Celebrating the 150th anniversary of the birth of Guglielmo Marconi, members of ARI Montegrappa (IQ3RP) will be active as **II3GM** from **April 15th to May 15th**. QSL via operator's instructions.

-[425DXN # 1719 April 13, 2024] (0412-0517)

**I, ITALY.** Members of ARI Venezia (IQ3VE) will be active as **IR3POLO** from **April 1st to June 30th**. The special callsign commemorates the 700th anniversary since the death of Marco Polo, the Venetian merchant and explorer who travelled through Asia along the Silk Road (1271-1295). All QSOs will be confirmed automatically via the bureau.

-[425DXN # 1716 March 23, 2024] (0329-0628)

**ISØ, SARDINIA.** Tomi, OH2TJS is QRV as **ISØ/OH2TJS** until **May 18th**. Activity is on the HF bands using SSB, FT8, and FT4. QSL to [OH2TJS](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 19 May 9, 2024] (0510-0517)

**JA, JAPAN.** Take, JI3DST will be active again from the Miyako Islands (AS-079) from **April 24th to June 26th**. Callsigns to be used are **JS6RRR**, **JS6RRR/6**, **JI3DST/6**, **JJ5RBH/6** and **JR8YLY/6** on SSB and CW, as well as **JS6RRR/p**, **JI3DST/p**, **JJ5RBH/p** and **JR8YLY/p** on FT8/FT4. QSOs will be made available for ClubLog and LoTW Matching on the IOTA website.

-[425DXN # 1720 April 20, 2024] (0419-0628)

**KH9, WAKE I.** Tom, NL7RR is QRV as **KH9/NL7RR** until **May 15th**. Activity is generally on 20 meters using SSB around 0700z. QSL direct to [NL7RR](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 16 April 18, 2024] (0419-0517)

**OE, AUSTRIA..** Rene, DL2JRM is QRV as **OE7/DL2JRM** until **May 12th**. This includes being an entry in the CQ-M International DX contest (May 11th-12th). QSL to [DL2JRM](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 19 May 9, 2024] (0510-0517)



**OE, AUSTRIA.** Austrian amateurs are going to put **OE2ØSOTA** on the air from different summits from **May through October**, marking the 20th anniversary of the Austrian SOTA program. An award is available for 20 contacts with the special callsign. For more information see: <https://www.grz.com/db/OE20SOTA> and <https://oevsv.at/funkbetrieb/sota/OE20SOTA/> for a calendar with an operating schedule.

-[DXNL # 2404 May 1, 2024] (0503-0524)

**OK, CZECH REPUBLIC.** Sixteen special event stations, representing the teams competing in the 87th Ice Hockey World Championship to be held in the Czech Republic (May 10th-26th), will be active from **April 27th to May 26th**: **OL87DL, OL87F, OL87G, OL87HB, OL87LA, OL87OE, OL87OH, OL87OK, OL87OM, OL87OZ, OL87SM, OL87SP, OL87UN, OL87VE, OL87W and OL87YL**. Look for activity on 160-10 meters SSB, CW and digital modes. Three certificates will be available: see <https://ol87whc.cz/> for information. Paper QSLs will not be issued, but electronic QSLs are via LoTW and eQSL.

-[425DXN # 1721 April 27, 2024] (0426-0524)

**ON, BELGIUM.** The special event station **OR9ØAR** will be active **during May**, commemorating the death of Albert I of Belgium 90 years ago. QSL via bureau.

-[DXNL # 2404 May 1, 2024] (0503-0531)

**ON, BELGIUM.** Members of Club Radio Durnal (ON4CRD) will be active as **OR9ØAL** on **May 1st-31st**. The special callsign marks 90 years since the death of Albert I, King of the Belgians, who died in a mountaineering accident at the age of 58. QSL via the bureau.

-[425DXN # 1721 April 27, 2024] (0426-0531)

**ON, BELGIUM.** Special event station **OT2Ø24EPIC** is QRV **until May 19th** to promote the seventh edition of the Antwerp Port Epic cycling race. QSL via operators' instructions.

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 16 April 18, 2024] (0419-0517)

**PY, BRAZIL.** Gus, PT2ADM is QRV as **ZW3ØAS** **until May 31st**. Look for activity on 80-6 meters digital and SSB. This special callsign honors Ayrton Senna, the Brazilian Formula 1 driver, on the 30th anniversary of his death during the 1994 San Marino Grand Prix. QSL via LoTW, or via [PT2ADM](#).

-[425DXN # 1722 May 4, 2024] (0503-0531)

**SM, SWEDEN.** Ric, DL2VFR, plans to visit the following IOTA groups in Sweden: **May 8th to 11th**: Alnoen Island (EU-087) as **SM3/DL2VFR**; **May 11th to 15th**: Holmoen Island (EU-135) as **SM2/DL2VFR**; **May 15th to 16th**: Upsala (EU-084), as **SM5/DL2VFR**. QRV mostly on CW, some SSB on HF. QSL via [DL2VFR](#), [ClubLog's OQRS](#), LoTW.

-[DXNL # 2405 May 8, 2024] (0510-0517)

**SP, POLAND.** Marking the 25th anniversary since Poland joined the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, special callsign **HF25NATO** will be active from **May 1st to August 31st**. A certificate will be available for download on <https://hf25nato.spaward.pl>. Only 100 "limited edition QSL cards" will be distributed on a first-come, first-served basis via [ClubLog's OQRS](#). e-QSL via LoTW.

-[425DXN # 1721 April 27, 2024] (0426-0517)

**T32, E. KIRIBATI.** George, AA7JV is active **for a couple more days** as **T32JV** from Kiritimati/Christmas Island (OC-024), East Kiribati. His main focus is on 160 meters (+/- 1827.5 kHz): "Christmas Island is the closest land to Jarvis", he says, and "this may be a good opportunity to see what signals are like from this region. This time of the year is equally poor time for 160 as August, so this may be a good test to see what to expect". QSL via LoTW.

-[425DXN # 1723 May 11, 2024] (0510-0517)

**T5, SOMALIA.** Alex, IT9HRK is QRV as **T5/IT9HRK** from Mogadishu. Activity is in his spare time on 80 to 10 meters using mainly SSB, with some CW, RTTY, FT8, and FT4. He is here for several months. QSL via [IU5RPJ](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 19 May 9, 2024] (0510-0531)

**TR, GABON.** Roland, F8EN will be active again as **TR8CR** from Gabon from **May 15th until the end of June** (maybe longer). He will operate CW only and will celebrate his 96th birthday while there. Log

search on <http://LesNouvellesDX.fr/voirlogs.php>. QSL via [F6AJA](#).

-[425DXN # 1723 May 11, 2024] (0510-0628)

**UA, EUROPEAN RUSSIA.** Oleg, RD1A, who operated as RI41POL from aboard the vessel "Severnny Polyus" in 2023, is now active as **RIØPOL** from the same ship. The call was previously used by Vlad, UA4WHX, in 2015. QSL via [RN3RQ](#).

-[DXNL # 2403 April 24, 2024] (0426-0517)

**V4, ST. KITTS & NEVIS.** Tim, N5TCH will be active holiday style from V47JA's station as **V4/N5TCH** from St Kitts (NA-104) on **May 10th-17th**. Most likely he will be QRV during his early morning hours. QSL via LoTW; paper cards will not be available.

-[425DXN # 1722 May 4, 2024] (0510-0517)

**VU7, LAKSHADWEEP IS.** Santhilal, VU3OQK, reports that he is planning to be active as **VU7LAL** from Lakshadweep Islands (Agatti & Kavarathi) towards the **end of April until May 31st**. He will be on 40, 20 and 10 meters from both islands. QSL via [VU3OQK](#).

-[Tnx KØJGH April 13, 2024] (0426-0531)

**XU, CAMBODIA.** Tom, DL7BO is QRV as **XU7GNY** **until May 12th**. Activity is on 160 to 6 meters using CW, SSB and FT8 with an emphasis on the low bands. QSL via [DL4WK](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 18 May 2, 2024] (0503-0517)

**XW, LAOS.** Vincent, **XW4KV** is QRV from Vang Vieng **until June 1st**. Lately he has been active on 15 meters using FT8 around 1100z. QSL via [F4BKV](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 12 March 21, 2024] (0322-0531)

**YI, IRAQ.** Antonio, IZ5WPZ is QRV as **YI9WPZ** **until August**. Activity is on the HF bands using CW and SSB. QSL via [IK2DUW](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 18 May 2, 2024] (0503-0524)

**YI, IRAQ.** Sam, **YI1YY** has been QRV on 20 meters around 2340z. QSL via [IK2DUW](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 17 April 25, 2024] (0426-0517)

**YJ, VANUATU.** Chris, VK2YUS will be QRV as **YJØCA** from Port Vila (OC-035) from **April YO, ROMANIA**. Celebrating the 95th anniversary of the first amateur radio association in Romania's Arad County, special callsigns **YR95AR, YR95CC, YR95CH, YR95IN, YR95LI, YR95PE** and **YR95SE** will be active from **February 16th until May 31st**. The event is being organized by C.S. Radioclub Admira (YO2KBQ), the successor of the club that was established almost a century ago. See <https://www.qrz.com/db/YR95AR> for more information.

-[425DXN # 1711 February 17, 2024] (0216-0531)

**Z8, SOUTH SUDAN.** Diya, **Z81D** (YI1DZ), had to move to a different location at the end of April and hopes to set up his whole gear **until May 12th** to be active again on SSB and FT8. QSL via [OM3JW](#), OQRS, LoTW, eQSL.

-[DXNL # 2405 May 8, 2024] (0510-0517)

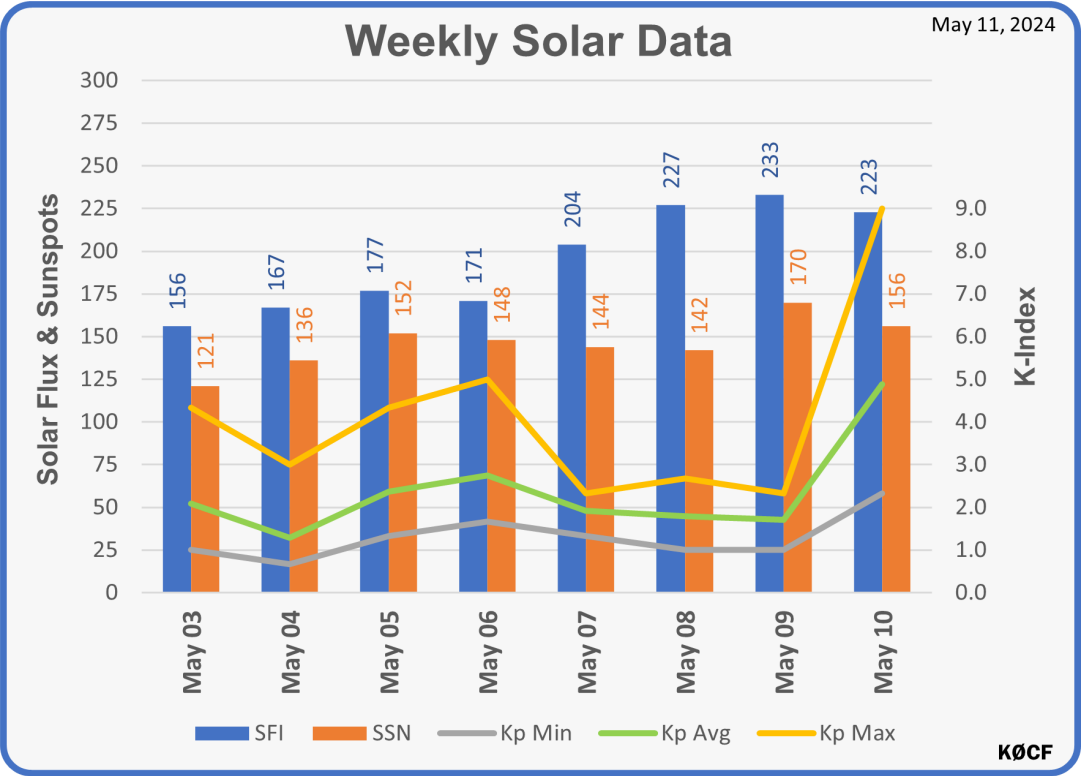
**ZL, NEW ZEALAND.** Members of the Gisborne Branch of the New Zealand Association of Radio Transmitters are QRV with special event call **ZL1ØØAC** **during May** to commemorate the first trans-Pacific contact with Carlos Braggio, CB8, near Buenos Aires, Argentina. QSL via operators' instructions.

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 19 May 9, 2024] (0510-0531)

**ZL, NEW ZEALAND.** Special event station **ZL6WG** remains active **until May 31st** supporting the 98th NZART conference (June 1st-2nd) at the Museum of Aeronautics in Christchurch. An award is also available. QSL only via LoTW.

-[DXNL # 2403 April 24, 2024] (0426-0531)

## Propagation (Updated daily)



The Weekly Solar Data chart plots Solar Flux Index (SFI), Sunspot number (SSN) and Planetary K-Index (Kp) for the past 8 days. With 8 Planetary K-index readings each day, only the minimum, average and maximum K-index values are plotted. **Note:** You may click [here](#) or on the chart above to see the same data for the past month.

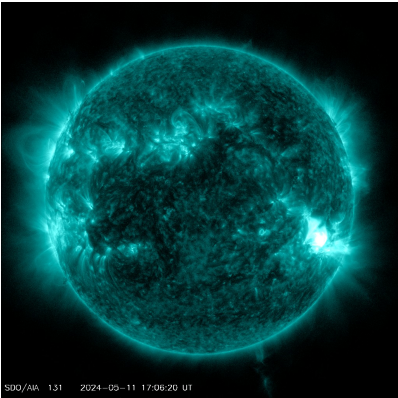
The Daily Solar Flux Index, Sunspot number, Planetary K-index, Solar Flux predictions and Solar Flare data used in this bulletin have been collected by KØCF from the U.S. Department of Commerce's NOAA Space Weather Prediction Center.

The propagation graphs above are the creations of KØCF and are unique in space weather reporting.

*Please Note: The graphs are high resolution .PNG files which you may view in greater detail using your browser's "zoom" feature. Alternatively, right click on the graph and select "Open Image in New Tab" to enlarge it, or "Save Image As..." to save it to your computer for further analysis.*

NASA's current view of the Sun at a wave-length of 131 Angstroms. This wavelength shows incredible solar detail.

Click [here](#) or on the image to view as a full screen 48-hour video loop. It is fascinating!



Propagation Summary

For the 8 day period from Friday, May 3rd through yesterday, May 10th.

The average solar flux was 200, up 58 points from the previous week, with a weekly high of 233 on Thursday, May 9th, following a low of 156 on May 3rd.

The average sunspot count was 150, up 40 from last week, peaking at 170 on Thursday, May 9th after

a weekly low of 121 on May 3rd.

The Planetary K-index weekly average was 4.1 with a maximum of 9.0 on Friday, May 10th, resulting in extreme geomagnetic storm conditions.

Solar flare activity since May 4th has been nearing historic levels with 57 major flares, the largest of which was a major X 5.8 event on Saturday, May 11th.

Propagation Data

Major solar flares, Saturday, May 4th through 1635 UTC, May 11th.

#	Date	UTC	Mag.
1	May 11	1525	M 8.8
2	May 11	1144	X 1.5
3	May 11	1016	M 3.0
4	May 11	0123	X 5.8
5	May 10	2108	M 3.8
6	May 10	2003	M 1.9
7	May 10	1905	M 2.0
8	May 10	1411	M 5.9
9	May 10	0654	X 3.9
10	May 10	0329	M 1.4
11	May 09	2241	M 2.6
12	May 09	2215	M 1.0
13	May 09	1744	X 1.1
14	May 09	1323	M 3.7
15	May 09	1212	M 2.9
16	May 09	0913	X 2.2
17	May 09	0840	M 2.1
18	May 09	0317	M 4.0
19	May 08	2140	X 1.0
20	May 08	1753	M 7.9
21	May 08	1204	M 8.6
22	May 08	1122	M 4.1
23	May 08	0741	M 4.5
24	May 08	0653	M 7.1
25	May 08	0509	X 1.0
26	May 08	0430	M 3.5
27	May 08	0327	M 1.9
28	May 08	0227	M 3.3
29	May 08	0141	X 1.0
30	May 07	1630	M 8.2
31	May 07	1148	M 2.4
32	May 07	0832	M 1.4



33	May 07	0616	M 5.1
34	May 07	0056	M 2.6
35	May 06	2227	M 4.3
36	May 06	2148	M 1.2
37	May 06	0959	M 1.5
38	May 06	0635	X 4.5
39	May 06	0528	M 1.3
40	May 06	0106	M 1.6
41	May 05	1952	M 1.3
42	May 05	1840	M 1.0
43	May 05	1701	M 1.3
44	May 05	1538	M 2.2
45	May 05	1447	M 1.3
46	May 05	1154	X 1.3
47	May 05	1000	M 7.4
48	May 05	0936	M 2.3
49	May 05	0818	M 1.3
50	May 05	0601	X 1.3
51	May 05	0126	M 8.3
52	May 04	2348	M 9.0
53	May 04	2237	M 3.2
54	May 04	1820	M 1.3
55	May 04	0707	M 1.5
56	May 04	0619	M 9.1
57	May 04	0036	M 1.6

(NOAA's graph of recent flare activity: [GOES-X-Ray-Flux](#))

From the NOAA Space Weather Prediction Center, here are the probabilities of major solar flares and the predicted 10.7 cm Solar Flux for the next 3 days. NOAA updates this information daily.

Date	M-Flares	X-Flares	Solar Flux
May 11	95%	75%	225
May 12	95%	75%	220
May 13	95%	75%	220

Looking farther ahead, here is the NOAA Space Weather Prediction Center forecast of 10.7 cm radio flux and maximum Planetary K-index (Kp) for the next 12 days. This data is updated by NOAA every Monday (last updated on May 6, 2024).

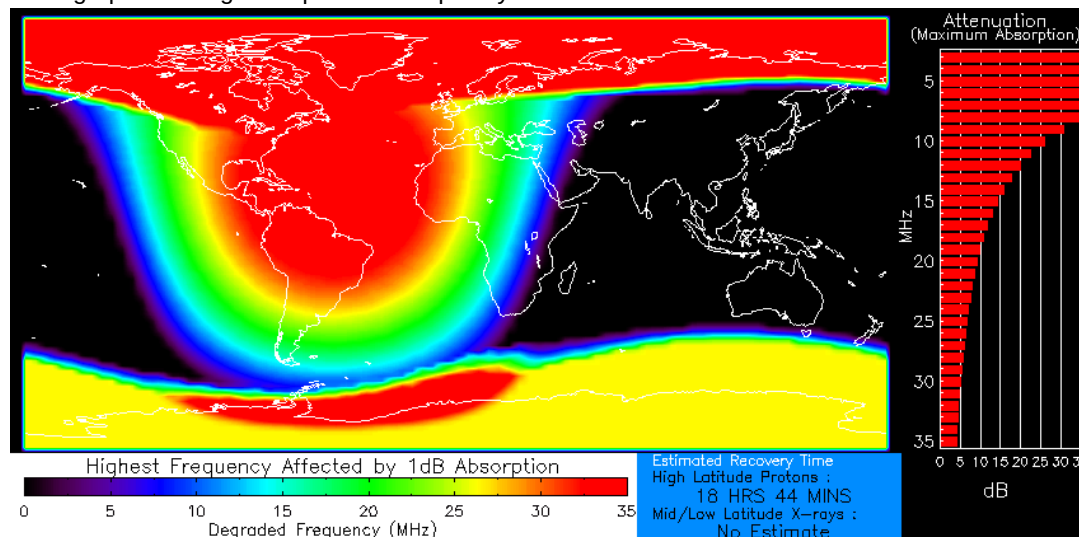
Date	Flux	Kp
May 11	175	2
May 12	175	3
May 13	175	4
May 14	180	3

Date	Flux	Kp
May 15	205	2
May 16	205	2
May 17	200	2
May 18	195	2

Date	Flux	Kp
May 19	190	2
May 20	185	2
May 21	180	2
May 22	175	2

## D-Region Absorption

The red areas on this map show where the D-layer in the ionosphere is currently absorbing most radio waves before they can get to the F2 layer to be reflected for good DX propagation. At the right edge is a bar graph showing absorption vs. frequency.



Moderate X-ray flux

Product Valid At : 2024-05-11 15:23 UTC

Minor Proton Flux

NOAA/SWPC Boulder, CO USA

From NOAA: The D-Region Absorption addresses the operational impact of the solar X-ray flux and SEP events on HF radio communication. Long-range communications using high frequency (HF) radio waves (3 - 30 MHz) depend on reflection of the signals in the ionosphere. Radio waves are typically reflected near the peak of the F2 layer (~300 km altitude), but along the path to the F2 peak and back the radio wave signal suffers attenuation due to absorption by the intervening ionosphere.

The D-Region Absorption Prediction model is used as guidance to understand the HF radio degradation and blackouts this can cause.

(From the NOAA web site, May 11, 2024)

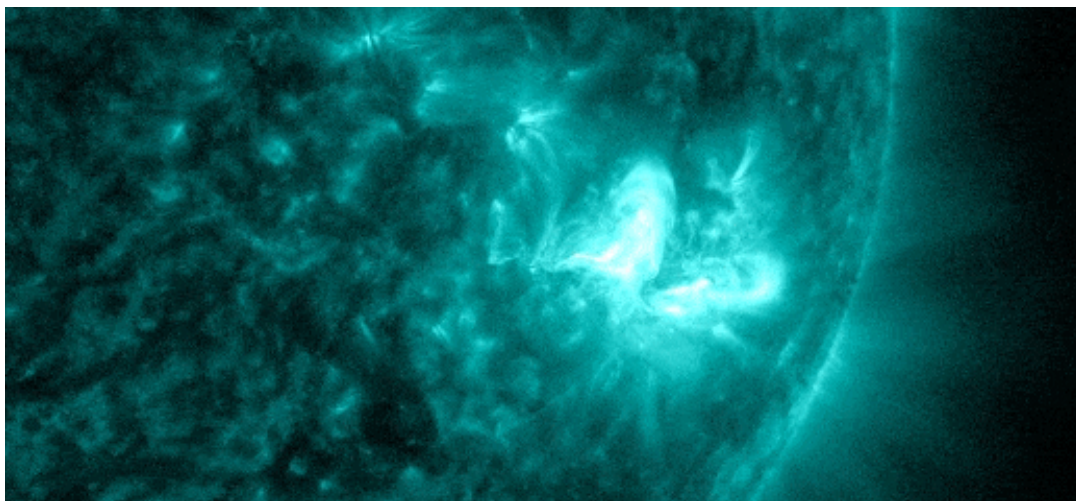
## The Storm is Not Over

A CME hit Earth's magnetic field on May 10th, sparking the biggest geomagnetic storm in almost 20 years--an extreme (category G5) event. It is subsiding now (currently category G3), but it is not over. More CMEs are expected to hit Earth's magnetic field during the next 24-48 hours, and they could push the storm back to severe or even extreme levels. Stay tuned for updates!

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## The Strongest X-Flare Yet

Giant sunspot AR3664 unleashed another X-flare today (May 11th @ 0139 UT)--its strongest yet. NASA's Solar Dynamics Observatory captured a bright ultraviolet flash from the category X5.8 explosion:



Radiation from the flare caused a deep shortwave radio blackout over the Pacific Ocean. Ham radio operators and mariners may have noticed loss of signal at frequencies below 30 MHz for as much as an hour after the flare's peak.

We don't yet know if this flare hurled a CME into space. If it did, it could have a grazing Earth-directed component. Confirmation awaits fresh data from SOHO coronagraphs.

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### Highs for Cycle 25

Solar Flux: 234 on January 15, 2023.

Sunspots: 283 on April 21, 2024.

### Popular Propagation web sites

<https://prop.kc2g.com/> (Excellent Maximum Usable Frequency map)

NOAA <https://www.swpc.noaa.gov/>

<https://www.spaceweather.com/>

<https://www.solarham.com/>

<https://dx.qsl.net/propagation/>

### A Propagation Tutorial

The solar X-ray flux tracks solar activity and solar flares. Solar flux, which can vary from as low as 50 to as high as 300, influences the level of ionization in the F2 region of the ionosphere, providing a very good prediction of HF DX conditions. The higher the solar flux, the better conditions will be for the higher HF frequencies and even 6 meters. However, the levels need to be maintained for some days to allow ionization in the F2 layer to build up. A solar flux of 150 results in good HF band conditions, while levels of 200 and up can provide great conditions.

Large X-ray flares on the sun can increase the ionization of the D layer of the ionosphere (a lower layer) on the sunlit side of the Earth, greatly attenuating or blocking HF radio transmissions for up to a half hour. Solar flares often produce Coronal Mass Ejections (CMEs) which, if Earth directed, can lead to geomagnetic storms. Some large flares are also accompanied by strong radio bursts that may interfere with other radio frequencies and cause problems for satellite communication and radio navigation (GPS).

The Planetary K-index is a measure of the magnitude of geomagnetic storms and is an excellent indicator of disturbances in the Earth's magnetic field. A level of 1 or 2 represents quiet geomagnetic conditions; a reading of 3 or 4 may cause some propagation deterioration; 5 and 6 are minor to moderate geomagnetic storms; and 7 to 9 are strong, severe, and extreme storm conditions. Strong geomagnetic storms can trigger Auroral displays and cause HF radio blackouts. Higher geomagnetic activity also has the adverse effect of lowering maximum usable frequencies, much like lower solar flux does.

For best conditions, the solar flux should be above 150 for a few days with the K index below 2. When

these conditions are met, some good DX is likely!

-[Compiled from information on NOAA.gov and other sources]

## Contest Calendar

### Weekly Contests

Contest	Start UTC		End	Web Site
K1USN Slow Speed Test	Monday	0000Z	0100Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
ICWC Medium Speed Test	Monday	1300Z	1400Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
	Monday	1900Z	2000Z	
	Tuesday	0300Z	0400Z	
CWops Test (CWT)	Wednesday	1300Z	1400Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
	Wednesday	1900Z	2000Z	
	Thursday	0300Z	0400Z	
	Thursday	0700Z	0800Z	
Weekly RTTY Test	Friday	0145Z	0215Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
NCCC CW Sprint (NS)	Friday	0230Z	0300Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>

Note: Start Days are in UTC, e.g. Monday at 0000 UTC is Sunday at 7:00 PM in the Central Daylight Saving Time zone, or Sunday at 6:00 PM in the Central Standard Time zone.

### Full Calendar

Contest	Start		End		Web Site
CQ-M International DX Contest	May 11	1200Z	May 12	1159Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
His Maj. King of Spain Contest, CW	May 18	1200Z	May 19	1200Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
Arkansas QSO Party	May 18	1400Z	May 19	0200Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
Baltic Contest	May 18	2100Z	May 19	0200Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
<b>CQ WW WPX Contest, CW</b>	May 25	0000Z	May 26	2400Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
Kentucky QSO Party	Jun 1	1300Z	Jun 2	0100Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
ARRL Inter. Digital Contest	Jun 1	1800Z	Jun 2	2400Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
ARRL June VHF Contest	Jun 8	1800Z	Jun 10	0300Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
Stew Perry Topband Challenge	Jun 15	1500Z	Jun 16	1500Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
West Virginia QSO Party	Jun 15	1600Z	Jun 16	0400Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
ARRL Kids Day	Jun 15	1800Z	Jun 15	2359Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
His Maj. King of Spain Contest, SSB	Jun 22	1200Z	Jun 23	1200Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
Ukrainian DX DIGI Contest	Jun 22	1200Z	Jun 23	1200Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
<b>ARRL Field Day</b>	Jun 22	1800Z	Jun 23	2100Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
RAC Canada Day Contest	Jul 1	0000Z	Jul 1	2359Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
<b>IARU HF World Championship</b>	Jul 13	1200Z	Jul 14	1200Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
CQ Worldwide VHF Contest	Jul 20	1800Z	Jul 21	2100Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>

North American QSO Party, RTTY	Jul 20	1800Z	Jul 21	0559Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
RSGB IOTA Contest	Jul 27	1200Z	Jul 28	1200Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
Alabama QSO Party	Jul 27	1500Z	Jul 28	0300Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
10-10 Int. Summer Contest, SSB	Aug 3	0001Z	Aug 4	2359Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
North American QSO Party, CW	Aug 3	1800Z	Aug 4	0600Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
<b>WAE DX Contest, CW</b>	Aug 10	0000Z	Aug 11	2359Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>
Maryland-DC QSO Party	Aug 10	1400Z	Aug 11	0400Z	<a href="#">Rules</a>

-[Contest data courtesy of the [WA7BNM Contest Calendar](#) ]